

ACADEMIC COUNCIL REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation
Decision
Discussion/Direction
Information

DATE: 22 March 2022

FROM: Undergraduate Studies Committee

SUBJECT: Major Program Modifications – Bachelor of Arts in Educational Studies
Advanced Entry and Minor

COMMITTEE MANDATE:

In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility “to examine proposals for new undergraduate degree programs and major changes to existing programs and to recommend their approval, as appropriate, to the Academic Council”.

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:

That, pursuant to the recommendation of USC, Academic Council hereby approves the Major Program Modifications to the Bachelor of Arts in Educational Studies Advanced Entry and Minor programs.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:

The Faculty is proposing to change the name of the programs from Educational Studies and Digital Technologies to Educational Studies, to be relevant to a larger range of students. Course prefixes will be changed to EDST to reflect the program name.

For the Advanced Entry (AE), a digital technology specialization and an EDI specialization will also be added. The program map will become more flexible and new courses will be added to expand the choices available to students. The program learning outcomes have been revised as part of the program review process and are reflected in the new program format.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

There are no anticipated immediate resource requirements for the changes to the AE. Additional faculty and/or support may be required as the AE program grows. The additional flexibility in the program map may reduce the need for sessional instructors in years with low enrollment. The previous program map included 16 required courses and 2 fixed specializations (each with 4 required courses), requiring at least 24 sections to be offered every year. With the new program map, only the core courses need to be offered every year, with a selection of electives to match the needs and interests of students and enrollment.

There are no resource requirements for the changes to the Minor.

TRANSITION PLAN:

These changes would be effective as of Fall 2022. No transition plan is required for the Minor program.

New AE students will follow the new map and requirements. Existing AE students would have the option to switch to the new program if it would better meet their needs. Because many current students study part-time, the transition plan must be flexible for current students who will not complete the program within 1 year of the new program coming into effect.

From Fall 2022-Spring/Summer 2023, courses will be offered to support both the previous and new program map.

Current Students: AEDT courses (with the new EDST prefixes) will be offered according to the schedule that was provided to BA students in Winter 2021. EDST 2150U Teaching Methods will replace AEDT 2150U – Digital Technologies and Advanced Teaching Methods (updated course prefix & number and some updated learning outcomes).

New students: Almost all courses in the revised Pathways are from the existing program, with only a change in prefix (see Change in Course Prefix document). The new EDST 1000U core course will be offered in Fall 2022.

After spring/summer 2023, all core courses will be offered every year. Courses from the previous program will continue to be offered as electives in the new program. However, there is no guarantee that specific elective courses will be offered each year; electives will be determined by enrollment and student interests. If needed, course substitutions will be considered on a case-by-case basis to help current students complete their program. This transition plan will be communicated to current students through email and a town hall for each specialization.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:

USC: 15 February 2022

Faculty Council: 20 December 2021

NEXT STEPS:

- Pending the approval of Academic Council, this change will be included in the 2022-2023 Academic Calendar

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- Major Program Modification Proposal - [Advanced Entry](#)
- Major Program Modification Proposal - [Minor](#)

For Information:

- New Courses: [EDST 1000U](#), [EDST 1130U](#), [EDST 2500U](#), [EDST 3500U](#), [EDST 3999U](#), [EDST 4500U](#), [EDST 4999U](#)
- Course Changes: [EDST 1100U](#), [EDST 1110U](#), [EDST 1120U](#), [EDST 1160U](#), [EDST 1170U](#), [EDST 1230U](#), [EDST 1312U](#), [EDST 2110U](#), [EDST 2120U](#), [EDST 2140U](#), [EDST 2150U](#), [EDST 2160U](#), [EDST 2170U](#), [EDST 3110U](#), [EDST 3120U](#), [EDST 3130U](#), [EDST 3160U](#), [EDST 3170U](#), [EDST 4120U](#), [EDST 4140U](#), [EDST 4150U](#), [EDST 4200U](#), [EDST 4201U](#), [EDST 4300U](#), [EDST 4301U](#), [EDST 4530U](#)